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OCT 10 2006

Appl. No. 10/642,991
Amdt. dated October 10, 2006
Reply to Office Action of May 8, 2006Remarks

The present amendment responds to the Official Action dated May 8, 2006. A petition for a two month extension of the time to respond and authorization to charge Deposit Account No. 50-1058 the fee for this extension accompany this amendment. The Official Action rejected claims 1-3, 7-12, 15 and 17-19 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) based on Yach et al., U.S. Published Patent Application No. 2002/0128036 (Yach). Claims 4, 5 and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over Yach in view of Hamilton U.S. Published Patent Application No. 2002/0176377 (Hamilton). Claim 6 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over Yach and Hamilton further in view of Zhang U.S. Patent No. 6,661,785 (Zhang). The Official Action states that claim 14 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) based on Yach in view of Leslie U.S. Published Patent Application No. 2003/0135485 (Leslie), but from the language and discussion of the rejection it is believed that the rejection falls under 35 U.S.C. 103(a). The Official Action states that claims 13 and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) based on Yach in view of Lindquist et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,852,660 (Lindquist), but from the language and discussion of the rejection, it is believed that the rejection falls under 35 U.S.C. 103(a). These grounds of rejection are addressed below following a brief discussion of the present invention to provide context. Claims 1, 7 and 10 have been amended to be more clear and distinct. Claims 1-20 are presently pending.

The Present Invention

A wireless communication system according to one aspect of the invention includes a mobile switching center providing voice connection services to a plurality of wireless devices,

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such as wireless telephones. The mobile switching center can provide voice connections between the wireless telephones, and also provides a connection to a public switched telephone network, in order to allow connections between the wireless telephones and wireline telephones.

The system preferably includes a server providing centralized directory services and centralized calling features, accessible by establishing an Internet Protocol (IP) connection between a wireless telephone requesting such services and the server. The telephone suitably communicates with the server when needed, in order to search for a desired telephone number, and also to download commands needed to implement desired calling features. Once a desired telephone number has been located in the directory and provided to the telephone, the telephone number may be selected, for example, by using the wireless telephone display and keypad, in order to initiate a call. In order to initiate the call, the wireless telephone initiates a connection suitable for voice communication. This connection may be initiated through the mobile switching center.

Alternatively, the system may include a voice over IP server, allowing the wireless telephone to initiate a voice over IP connection. In such a case, the voice over IP server manages an IP data stream to and from the wireless telephone, performing necessary translation between IP data and voice signals, and manages the transmission of communication data between the wireless telephone and the called telephone, suitably by providing a connection to a wired or wireless switching network, depending on the nature of the telephone being called.

In addition to using directory information to place calls, a wireless telephone may receive commands from the directory and features server and use these commands to implement calling

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features, such as monitoring a telephone that is busy when called and alerting the user when the telephone being monitored is no longer busy. Such commands may be downloaded from the directory and features server upon initial connection, or alternatively a command may be downloaded when needed.

The Art Rejections

As addressed in greater detail below, Yach, Hamilton, Zhang, Leslie and Lindquist do not support the Official Action's reading of them and the rejections based thereupon should be reconsidered and withdrawn. Further, the Applicants do not acquiesce in the analysis of Yach, Hamilton, Zhang, Leslie, and Lindquist made by the Official Action and respectfully traverse the Official Action's analysis underlying its rejections.

The Official Action rejected claims 1-3, 7-12, 15, and 17-19 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as anticipated by Yach. In light of the present amendments to claims 1, 7, and 10, this ground of rejection is respectfully traversed. Claim 1, as amended, reads as follows:

1. A wireless communication system for supporting communication by a plurality of wireless devices, comprising:
 - a packet data interface for supporting packet data communication by each of the plurality of wireless devices;
 - a voice interface for supporting voice communication by each of the plurality of wireless devices; and
 - a data server providing data and centralized directory services and centrally controlled calling features to each of the plurality of wireless devices through a packet data connection in order to furnish data to a wireless device upon request by the wireless devices, the data server providing common access to data by two or more of the wireless devices, the data furnished by the data server including user accessible data and features, at least some elements of the user accessible data and features providing shared access to two or more wireless devices such that at least some of the same elements of the user accessible data and features are accessible by two or more wireless devices.

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These limitations in the claimed combination are not taught and are not made obvious by Yach. Yach teaches a dual mode mobile device connected to a data packet network. It is mainly focused upon the dual operation upon voice and data at the same time. A user is able to use the mobile device to gain access to data items associated with or directed to the user, for example, data hosted on the user's personal computer 120 or a commonly shared data storage mechanism, for example a server used in a corporate environment. However, the data accessible to the mobile device of Yach is data associated with the user of the mobile device. Yach does not teach the user of a packet data connection to provide access to data and features by wireless devices, with at least some of the same elements of the data and features being accessible by two or more of the wireless devices. Such access, as is claimed by claim 1, allows for a simpler design for mechanisms for storage and retrieval of commonly accessible information that does not need to be associated with a particular user, such as a central corporate telephone directory or a set of calling features. Claim 1, by contrast, provides for a combination of access to voice communication together with retrieval of data and features according to user selections. Claim 1, as amended, therefore defines over the cited art and should be allowed.

Claim 7, as amended, reads as follows:

7. A wireless device for communication using directory information and calling features through a packet data connection with a data server, comprising:
a voice connection interface for establishing and maintaining a voice connection for voice communication through a switched voice network; and
a business service client module for retrieving from the data server calling information commonly accessible by the wireless device and by other similar wireless devices, the calling information including user accessible data and features providing for shared access by two or more wireless devices such that at least some of the same elements of the data and features are accessible by two or more wireless devices and for processing and presenting calling information received from the data server, the business service client module being operative to access

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centralized directory services and centrally controlled calling features provided by the data server, and to direct the initiation of voice communication with a desired telephone upon identification and retrieval of the desired telephone number from the data server.

As noted above with respect to claim 1, Yach does not teach and does not make obvious a wireless device for communication using directory information and calling features through a packet data connection with a data server, with the wireless device being capable of retrieving information from the data server including user accessible data and features providing for shared access by two or more wireless devices such that at least some of the same elements of the data and features are accessible by two or more wireless device. Claim 7, as amended, therefore defines over the cited art and should be allowed.

Claim 10, as amended, reads as follows:

10. A method of wireless communication, comprising the steps of:
establishing a packet data connection between one of a plurality of wireless devices and a directory and features server storing calling information commonly accessible to two or more of the wireless devices;
selecting desired calling information from centralized directory services and centrally controlled calling features provided by the server, the server providing for shared access to the calling information and calling features by two or more wireless devices such that some of the same elements of the calling information and calling features are accessible by two or more wireless devices, and delivering the calling information to a requesting wireless device; and
initiating and maintaining a call from the requesting wireless device to a telephone identified by the calling information delivered from the server.

As noted above with respect to claims 1 and 7, Yach does not teach and does not make obvious selecting calling information from centralized directory services and centrally controlled calling features provided by a server, with the server providing for shared access to the calling information and calling features by two or more wireless devices such that some of the same

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elements of the calling information and calling features are accessible by two or more wireless devices. Claim 10, as amended, therefore defines over Yach and should be allowed.

The Official Action rejected claims 4, 5, and 16 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over Yach in view of Hamilton. Claims 4 and 5 are dependent claims having claim 1 as a base claim. Because claim 1 has been shown to be allowable, claims 4 and 5 should also be allowed. Hamilton does not cure Yach's failings as a reference and, this ground of rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Official Action rejected claim 6 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over Yach in view of Hamilton in further view of Zhang. Claim 6 is a dependent claim having claim 1 as a base claim. Because claim 1 has been shown to be allowable, claim 6 should also be allowed. Further, Zhang does not cure Yach and Hamilton's failure as references with respect to claim 6.

The Official Action states that claim 14 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) based on Yach in view of Leslie U.S. Published Patent Application No. 2003/0135485 (Leslie), but from the language and discussion of the rejection it is believed that the rejection falls under 35 U.S.C. 103(a). Claim 14 is a dependent claim having claim 1 as a base claim. Because claim 1 has been shown to be allowable, claim 14 should also be allowed. Leslie does not cure Yach's deficiencies as a reference with respect to claim 14.

The Official Action states that claims 13 and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) based on Yach in view of Lindquist et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,852,660 (Lindquist), but from the language and discussion of the rejection, it is believed that the rejection falls under 35 U.S.C. 103(a). Claims 13 and 20 are dependent claims having claim 1 as a base claim. Because claim 1

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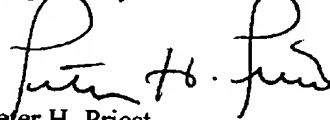
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has been shown to be allowable, claims 13 and 20 should also be allowed. Lindquist does not cure Yach's deficiencies as a reference with respect to claims 13 and 20.

Conclusion

All of the presently pending claims, as amended, appearing to define over the applied references, withdrawal of the present rejection and prompt allowance are requested.

Respectfully submitted



Peter H. Priest
Reg. No. 30,210
Priest & Goldstein, PLLC
5015 Southpark Drive, Suite 230
Durham, NC 27713-7736
(919) 806-1600